

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 ADDIS 02129 111309Z  
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05  
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02  
SS-15 ICA-11 IO-13 AID-05 /104 W  
-----070128 112203Z /62

R 111132Z MAY 78  
FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8350  
INFO AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM  
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI  
USINT HAVANA

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E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PINT, ET  
SUBJ: ESTABLISHMENT OF MORE VISIBLE NATIONAL LEADERSHIP  
ROLE FOR CHAIRMAN MENGISTU

1. PMGSE CHAIRMAN MENGISTU MADE "WORKING VISIT" TO DIRE DAWA AFTERNOON OF MAY 10. MENGISTU WAS EXCORTE TO ADDIS ABABA'S BOLE AIRPORT THROUGH TROOP-LINED STREETS TO HIS "SPECIAL PLANE." IN DIRE DAWA, HE WAS GREETED BY "CLOSE TO 100,000 RESIDENTS, SINGING JOYOUSLY AND CHANTING REVOLUTIONARY SLOGANS."

2. COMMENT: SINCE MENGISTU'S VISIT TO CUBA WHERE IMPRESSIVE PORTRAITS OF HIM OVERLOOKED CHEERING THROGS, HE HAS APPARENTLY PERCEIVED SOME ADVANTAGE IN DEVELOPING A "PERSONALITY CULT" OR AT A MINIMUM ASSUMING GREATER VISIBILITY AS TRULY NATIONAL LEADER. FOLLOWING EXAMPLE OF FORMER CHAIRMAN TEFERI BANTE--AND EVEN HIS IMPERIAL MAJESTY--EMBASSY EXPECTS MENGISTU TO PERSUE THIS

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EFFORT, ADVANCING FROM RELATIVE ANONYMITY AND OBSCURITY BY MAKING MORE PUBLIC APPEARANCES, SUCH AS RECENT SEND-OFF OF ORPHANS TO CUBA. THIS MAY OCCUR MORE FREQUENTLY AS HE TURNS HIS ATTENTION FROM PURELY MILITARY MATTERS TO INTERNAL DEVELOPMENTS AND POLITICS.

MATHERON

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** POLITICAL LEADERS, VISITS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 11 may 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978ADDIS02129  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780201-0135  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** ADDIS ABABA  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1978/newtext/t19780571/aaaacifl.tel  
**Line Count:** 61  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 0c811fa1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION AF  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 24 apr 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2728904  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** ESTABLISHMENT OF MORE VISIBLE NATIONAL LEADERSHIP ROLE FOR CHAIRMAN MENGISTU  
**TAGS:** PINT, ET, (MENGISTU HAILE-MARIAM)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/0c811fa1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
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US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014